FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Academy Families,

Steve Jobs was known for often saying 'no' to his employers, employees, backers and to pressures in general. He, of course, believed this his saying 'no' was the reason innovation was possible. "People think focus means saying 'yes' to the thing you've got to focus on but that's not what it means at all. It really means saying 'no' to the other hundred good ideas that there are." That said, I will share with you that this week has been especially trying for the SEA administrators. We have had to say 'no' more than ever before. Please understand that the word 'no' is never said [Click here to read more.]

MISS COUPE'S SECOND GRADE CLASS

Miss Coupe's 2nd grade class has been studying Douglas Florian's poem, Winter Eyes. We love this poet because his work amuses children while challenging them to think. The boys discovered that Mr. Florian often uses imagery to appeal to his readers' five senses. As they studied the poem, they realized that the poet had actually only appealed to four of their five senses! They then worked together to create a stanza which matched the mentor author's style for the missing fifth sense.

REGIONAL HISTORY BEE COMPETITION

On Thursday, eight students from grades 7 & 8 competed in the National History Bee school competition during enrichment period. The students competed...
to earn one of five spots available to represent the SEA in the History Bee's Regional Qualifying Exam. Congrats to the five finalists: Ben Horgan, Connor Lehmann, Charles Parson, Andrew Silva and Ryan Russo. Special congratulations to Ryan Russo who won the intramural competition. The five finalists will take the online exam at the end of the month. The Regional History Bee Competition is in Philadelphia in April.

INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL PROGRAM

The Instructional Basketball Program (for boys in Grades 1 & 2) begins tomorrow, January 10th and runs from 9am-10am for 5 consecutive Saturdays (1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31 and 2/7). Signups were in November. Contact Ryan Holsten with questions.

MRS. WAGNER'S THIRD GRADE CLASS

Mrs. Wagner's class began a unit on argumentative writing this week. The first project was to play detective, using physical evidence to decide and prove the 'truth'. They worked as partners jotting down evidence and creating 'warrants' based on stories and pictures. Finally, students wrote police reports detailing evidence supporting their 'unanimous' claims! It was a very exciting week in 3-2.

PARENTS' GUILD UPDATE

Happy New Year and Welcome Back! For all you do at our school, we are most grateful! Please join us for our next monthly meeting on Thursday, 1/15 (7pm).

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, 1/24: Bunco/Family Night (...and Grand Raffle Kickoff drawing!)
Saturday, 2/28: 2nd Annual Parents' Social Night (aka 'The Beef & Beer'...and the Grand Raffle Final Drawing!)

LETTER DAYS

Monday, 1/12: 'c'
Tuesday, 1/13: 'd'
Wednesday, 1/14: 'e'
Thursday, 1/15: 'f'
Friday, 1/16: 'a'

LUNCH MENU

Monday, 1/12:  
Chicken Patty ($3.25)
Rice ($1.25)
Thursday, 1/15:  
Deli Sandwich w/ Chips ($3.25)
Friday, 1/16:  
Pizza ($2.00/$2.25)

CAMP FAIR

Click here for details about the annual 'Camp Fair' at Tower Hill. It's never to early to plan for summer!
STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Student Council has decided to support *Nothing But Nets* with their next ‘Tag Day’ proceeds. The group was impressed with this program after learning about the ways that children in sub-Saharan Africa are vulnerable to disease carried by mosquito. The boys were impressed to learn that it only takes $10 to provide one child with a ‘bed net’ that will protect them from these extremely deadly mosquitos. Students are asked to contribute $2.00 and to wear their favorite basketball team’s (net!) apparel.

SPRING MUSICAL AUDITIONS

Auditions for the Spring Musical will be held this Sunday from 6-9pm. Students in grades 4-8 may audition using the required material distributed in class this week. If they did not receive the materials, they should come anyway and prepare to sing with the group and provide a solo as well. All candidates will learn a dance routine as well. Callback for principal parts will be Wednesday night (1/14) from 6-8pm. The first read-through will be next Sunday (1/18) rather than 1/15 as was initially announced. Parents must attend a meeting as well--to understand the role of a parent in the production process. As we know, it takes a village to make a show as successful as ours! Contact Ms. DeHart with your questions. Click here for full details.

SEA VARSITY and JV RED TEAMS ADVANCE IN THE 36th ANNUAL SJB CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT

The Varsity and JV 'Red' Teams both won the opening round games on Thursday evening. JV 'Red' beat IHM (Score: 29-19) and Varsity 'Red' beat Holy Angels (Score: 43-29). Both teams advance to the second round to be held at SJB on Tuesday (1/13). JV 'Red' will

SPIRIT WEAR

The Lancer Club's *AL’S SPORTING GOODS* Online Sale is now open! Please log on to place orders for P.E. uniforms or Spirit Wear. This sale closes on Tuesday, 1/20.

STUDENT DANCE

St. Ann's is holding a student dance tomorrow night! 7-10pm / $10.00 per student.

BARNES & NOBLE NIGHT PROCEEDS!

The 12/10 *B & N* sales event yielded earnings of almost $600 for the school library. This is double what we've earned in years past. Thank you for your support!

SOCIAL SKILL

'Table Manners' are important; use utensils properly.
play Saint Mary Magdalen at 6:30 and Varsity 'Red' will play Saint Mary of the Assumption at 7:45. Please come show your support! Go Lancers!

**CAFETERIA HELP REQUESTED!**

If you haven't yet signed up to help in the cafeteria, please do so. We need at least 3 volunteers for each day, and we're asking all families to sign up for at least one day! Click [here](#) to see our list of immediate need.